

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-identified application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A method of proliferating eukaryotic cells, comprising the step of introducing synthetic low density lipoprotein (sLDL) particles to a cell culture and allowing cells in the culture to proliferate.
2. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the sLDL particles are peptide free and enable at least a 20% increase in cell number to occur in comparison to cells grown in the presence of foetal calf serum (FCS) or other serum-free lipid supplements.
3. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the sLDL particles comprise a peptide and enable at least a 50% increase in cell number to occur in comparison to cells grown in the presence of foetal calf serum (FCS) or other serum-free lipid supplements.
4. (Withdrawn) A method of identifying an sLDL particle for use as a cell growth lipid supplement for a particular cell type, comprising the steps of:
 - a) providing an initial cell culture containing cells of the particular cell type;
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 - b) adding sLDL particles of defined composition and concentration to said culture medium;
 - c) allowing the cells to proliferate for a period of time; and
 - d) determining a level of proliferation of the cells.
5. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 4 wherein the cells are mammalian cells.

6. (Withdrawn) A cell culture medium comprising sLDL particles which particles comprise cholesterol and/or cholesterol ester wherein the total concentration of cholesterol and cholesterol ester is greater than 0.009 mg/ml of culture medium.

7. (Withdrawn) The cell culture medium according to claim 6 wherein the total cholesterol content is greater than 0.018 mg/ml.

8. (Withdrawn) Use of sLDL particles as a supplement to facilitate the growth of NSO cells.

9. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 5 wherein the mammalian cells are selected from the group consisting of U937, NSO, CHO, fibroblasts, hybridoma cell, myeloma cells and cellular assemblies.

10. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 9 wherein the cellular assemblies are embryos or pancreatic cells.

11. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the sLDL particles comprise cholesterol and/or cholesterol ester, and wherein a total concentration of the cholesterol and cholesterol ester is greater than 0.009 mg/ml of a culture medium.

12. (New) The method according to claim 11, wherein the total concentration of the cholesterol is greater than 0.018 mg/ml of the culture medium.

13. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the eukaryotic cells are mammalian cells and are selected from the group consisting of U937, NSO, CHO, fibroblasts, hybridoma cell, myeloma cells and cellular assemblies.

14. (New) The method according to claim 13, wherein the cellular assemblies are embryos or pancreatic cells.